

ORDINANCE NO. 14-318

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

The public welfare requiring it, and under authority granted by Section 11-52-78 of the 1975 *Code of Alabama*, **BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council for the City of Huntsville, Alabama, that the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, as adopted on the 21st day of March 1963, as amended, is hereby further amended as follows:

Section 1. Amend ARTICLE 74 - NON-CONFORMING LOTS: NON-CONFORMING USES OF LAND; NON-CONFORMING STRUCTURES; AND NON-CONFORMING USES OF STRUCTURES AND PREMISES, by deleting the existing Section 74.1 - Non-Conforming Lots of Record and by adding a new Section 74.1 to read as follows:

74.1 - Non-Conforming Lots of Record and Unified Lots

74.1.1 Definitions

For the purposes of this Section the following words, terms, or phrases shall have the following meanings:

Affiliate means a person who controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with another person. An affiliate of an individual may include, but is not necessarily limited to, that person's spouse or relative, or an individual having the same home as the individual; or an entity of which the individual is a person serving as part of the governing or controlling authority of the entity.

Common ownership means owned by the same person or his affiliate.

Contiguous lot means one or more lots which share a common boundary line.

Lot shall have the same meaning ascribed to it in Section 3.1 of this ordinance.

Non-conforming lot of record means a full platted lot that was platted and recorded prior to March 21, 1963, in the real estate records of the office of the probate judge in the county in which the lot is situated, and which lot does not conform to the minimum lot area or lot width requirements for the district in which it is located.

Unified lot means two or more contiguous lots that are so integrated, through common or dependent structures or reliance on the other to meet setback requirements,

as to form a unified whole.

74.1.2 Non-Conforming Lots of Record

Subject to subsection 74.1.3, a non-conforming lot of record may be used for a permitted use, except apartments and duplexes, nonetheless provided:

- (1) The lot has a minimum width of forty (40) feet and a minimum area of four thousand (4000) square feet;
- (2) The lot abuts an all-weather street and has not less than twenty (20) feet frontage;
- (3) The proposed building conforms to all yard requirements for the district; and
- (4) The water supply and sewage disposal meet all health requirements.

The Board of Adjustment may, upon proper showing under the law of variances, grant a variance to the requirements of subsections (2) and (3) above, but to no other provisions of this subsection 74.1.2.

Where a non-conforming lot of record is under common ownership with a contiguous lot, on or after the effective date of this Section, it shall be deemed to be merged into a single lot for the regulatory purposes of this ordinance, subject to each of the following:

- (1) The contiguous lots shall be deemed merged into a single lot to the extent necessary to create a lot that is sufficient to meet the minimum lot width and lot area requirements for the given district without leaving a substandard residual lot. Where a substandard residual lot or lots would be left by the merger, then the residual lot or lots will be included in the merger to form a single lot.
- (2) Where contiguous lots, at least one of which is a non-conforming lot of record, are under common ownership and each have a principal structure on the lot, then the non-conforming lot of record may retain its status as such and not be deemed merged into a single lot, but only so long as a principal structure is not abandoned.

74.1.3 Unified Lots

Unified lots under common ownership are deemed to be merged.

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect from and after the date of its publication.

ADOPTED this the 26th day of June, 2014.

President of the City Council of
the City of Huntsville, Alabama

APPROVED this the 26th day of June, 2014.

Mayor of the City of Huntsville,
Alabama